

in section 1886(d)(1)(B)(iii) of the Social Security Act.

“(3) DIRECT GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION COSTS.—The term ‘direct graduate medical education costs’ has the meaning given such term in section 1886(h)(5)(C) of the Social Security Act.”.

SEC. 5. STUDY REGARDING SHORTAGES OF LICENSED PHARMACISTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”), acting through the appropriate agencies of the Public Health Service, shall conduct a study to determine whether and to what extent there is a shortage of licensed pharmacists. In carrying out the study, the Secretary shall seek the comments of appropriate public and private entities regarding any such shortage.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete the study under subsection (a) and submit to the Congress a report that describes the findings made through the study and that contains a summary of the comments received by the Secretary pursuant to such subsection.

SEC. 6. REPORT ON TELEMEDICINE.

Not later than January 10, 2001, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to the Congress a report that—

(1) identifies any factors that inhibit the expansion and accessibility of telemedicine services, including factors relating to telemedicine networks;

(2) identifies any factors that, in addition to geographical isolation, should be used to determine which patients need or require access to telemedicine care;

(3) determines the extent to which—

(A) patients receiving telemedicine service have benefited from the services, and are satisfied with the treatment received pursuant to the services; and

(B) the medical outcomes for such patients would have differed if telemedicine services had not been available to the patients;

(4) determines the extent to which physicians involved with telemedicine services have been satisfied with the medical aspects of the services;

(5) determines the extent to which primary care physicians are enhancing their medical knowledge and experience through the interaction with specialists provided by telemedicine consultations; and

(6) identifies legal and medical issues relating to State licensing of health professionals that are presented by telemedicine services, and provides any recommendations of the Secretary for responding to such issues.

SEC. 7. CERTAIN TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES REGARDING SURVIVAL RATES FOR CARDIAC ARREST.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, in consultation with the Administrator of the General Services Administration and other appropriate public and private entities, develop recommendations regarding the placement of automatic external defibrillators in Federal buildings as a means of improving the survival rates of individuals who experience cardiac arrest in such buildings, including recommendations on training, maintenance, and medical oversight, and on coordinating with the system for emergency medical services.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate bill, S. 580, and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS SUSTAINABILITY ACT OF 1999

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 791) to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the women's business center program, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I do not intend to object, but I rise in strong support of Senate bill S. 791, the Women's Business Centers Sustainability Act of 1999. This is the Senate version of H.R. 491, which the House recently passed under suspension. With the passage of this bill, we will ensure that the women's business centers keep their doors open, and that the program will continue to grow with new centers in previously underserved areas.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY) for all her hard work and leadership on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, under my reservation, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY) to explain her unanimous consent request.

□ 1945

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of S. 791 is to allow for currently funded Women's Business Centers and graduated Business Women's Centers to re compete for Federal funding. S. 791 addresses the funding constraints that make it increasingly difficult for Women's Business Centers to sustain the level of services they provide and, in some instances, to remain open after they graduate from the Women's Business Centers Program and no longer receive Federal matching funds.

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Senate Bill 791, “The Women's Business Centers Sustainability Act of 1999.”

Women-owned businesses are the fastest growing sector of small business in America today. In fact, women entrepreneurs are starting new firms at twice the rate of all other business and own nearly 40 percent of all firms in the U.S.

These strong numbers show the success that women entrepreneurs enjoy, but anyone who has ever started a new business, knows that the road is not always smooth. Women's Business Centers play a major role in making that road to success a little less bumpy. Women's Business Centers, like the public-private partnership of the St. Louis Women's Business Center in my District, play a major role

in assisting women entrepreneurs establish strong business plans through courses, workshops, mentor services and provide access to financing for building businesses.

H.R. 1497 builds upon the legislation we passed earlier this year to help grow the number of Women's Business Centers across the nation. But as with anything, we must continue to take a well-balanced approach that allows successful centers to continue to compete for funding as they make the transition to the private sector. The Women's Business Center Sustainability Act makes it possible for Centers like the St. Louis Women's Business Center to have a sort of safety net as they make that transition at the end of their 5-year grant cycle.

Mr. Speaker, Women's Business Centers contribute to the success of thousands of women entrepreneurs by offering the critical community support necessary for them to succeed in today's business world. As more and more women decide to be their own boss, Women's Business Centers will provide them with the resources and training they need. I commend the spirit and innovation of all those whose entrepreneurial spirit has made America great and I urge my colleagues to support passage of the Women's Business Center Sustainability Act.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 791 the Women's Business Centers Sustainability Act. Women entrepreneurs are an increasingly significant part of the U.S. economy. Women own more than 8 million businesses and account for approximately one-third of all U.S. businesses and are starting businesses at twice the rate of men. Shrouded by these stirring statistics, is the fact that women encounter numerous obstacles trying to start, maintain or expand a business—obstacles which must be eliminated if we are ever to realize the full potential of this dynamic sector of our economy.

In my particular District, there exists several entities that help women's small businesses expand, in some instances, get started. I am very proud of these organizations for their dedication and hard work. In a very orderly and organized way, without a lot of overhead, women's business centers, by various names, are helping women who have an idea about a small business, providing them with technical assistance, in some instances to provide micro loans, and in all instances to provide the knowledge and wherewithal and planning that is necessary so that they start off on the right foot. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge all members to vote for this mindfall, well thought out bill and support our Nation's women's businesses.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

S. 791

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Women's Business Centers Sustainability Act of 1999”.